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Sent: Monday, March 06, 2006 10:22 AM  
To: MLPACComments@resources.ca.gov  
Subject: MLPACComments: MLPA - Package S and Package 2

To the MLPA staff and Blue Ribbon Task Force

Earlier in your process I wrote in support of "Package 2" over the other packages proposed for the Monterey Bay / Carmel area under review.

I understand that MLPA staff has drafted a Package S which appears to me to be an effort at compromise. Given the politics of the situation you're in, I can see where a "compromise package" seems the most expedient approach. However please remember that Package 2 already compromised a tremendous amount.

Therefore, this letter is to repeat my strong support for Package 2 - for its larger SMRs and especially for barring spearfishing contests.

In my previous email, I noted that while I do not fish myself, I come from a fishing family and support people's ability to fish for personal consumption. However -- the big caveat in my family was and is 'take no more than you can eat' and 'ensure that the ecosystem can thrive'. We have a responsibility to those who come later and to our planet itself.

Thus, I again write you to strongly urge you to stick with and adopt Package 2 as the one that allows sustainable take while, with its larger SMRs, does as much as possible to preserve fish and fishing for future generations.

Most seriously, I beg that you NOT allow spearfishing contests. Quite frankly, I find such contests appalling. Whereas fishing for personal consumption makes some sense, contests merely feed the desire "get the biggest and the most". In addition to the excessive take (especially of largest and most fertile fish), the possibility of fish injuries increase as well. There is nothing in such a contest that promotes either sustainability or responsibility.

Thank you for your hard work on this area and for your consideration of my letter.

Sincerely,

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